

FCC

Docket number: 04-227

Re: Close Captioning

To Whom It May Concern:

This is in response to feed back regarding closed captioning.

Closed captioning is very important to our family. My son enjoys watching educational programs as well as fun ones on T.V. He loves to watch biographies and documentaries about airplanes. Some of the programs he wants to watch are not captioned, (like on the Discovery Wings Channel.)

Closed captioning also helps hearing children. Studies have shown that children who watch programs with the captioning on are better readers and have an earlier understanding of the English language. So much of our understanding of the English language comes from hearing it when we were little. This is something a deaf child cannot do. By captioning programs you are giving the deaf/HOH children an opportunity to understand the English language.

I only wish captioning was more widespread. It would be nice to go to a movie in the theatre and see it captioned. Some states do offer this. Usually its in choice cities, only certain movies and you can only see it those few days it's in town. The technology is there it just needs to be more widespread. With voice recognition software and other technological advances, television sets could be made to automatically close caption a show even if it is not "CC".

Captioning is very important to my son Joey. He is profoundly deaf, uses hearing aids and an FM system. I believe captioning is one of the reasons he is going into the second grade and reads at a third grade level.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Have a wonderful day!

Sincerely,

Keri Parker